

DEC 30 2003

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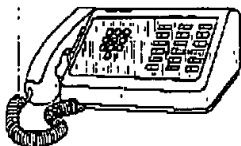
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*NY BAR**FACSIMILE COVER LETTER**

Our Ref.:	IBMB100270000	Your Ref.:	09/650,103
Fax No. Called:	703-872-9311		
Please Deliver To:	Ex. Zeinab El Arini U.S.P.T.O.	Art Unit Division	1746
From:	John J. Tomaszewski		
Date:	December 30, 2003	<i>BEB</i>	

We are transmitting 20 pages (including this cover sheet)**MESSAGE:****LETTER AFTER FINAL REJECTION****IMPORTANT**

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IBM Docket No. BUR9-1999-0267-US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Amendment Response/Transmittal

In re application of: Francis A. Abramovich et al.

Serial No. 09/650,103

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: METHOD FOR SURFACE PREPARATION OF WORKPIECES UTILIZING FLUID SEPARATION TECHNIQUES

Mail Stop AF
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Date: December 30, 2003

Transmitted herewith for filing is an Amendment/Response in the above-identified Application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
☐ The fee has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)			(Col. 2)		(Col. 3)
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT			HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA
TOTAL	27	*	MINUS	30	= 0
INDEPENDENT	4	*	MINUS	5	= 0
<input type="checkbox"/> 1ST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS					

Other Than Small Entity	
RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
x \$ 18.00=	\$ 0
x \$ 84.00=	\$ 0
\$280.00	\$
TOTAL	\$ 0

- * If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3.
 ** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".
 *** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3". The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

☒ Please charge the Assignee IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0456 in the amount of \$ 0. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 09-0456. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16.

☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents on the date shown below.	
Date:	December 30, 2003
Name:	Barbara Browne
Signature	<i>Barbara Browne</i>
Date	12/30/03

ibmbj00270000amdE-afiran

Respectfully submitted,

BY:

John J. Tomaszewski
 Attorney: John J. Tomaszewski
 Registration No. 26,241
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AFTER FINAL

DOCKET: BUR9-1999-0267-US1

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR: Francis A. Ambrovich et al.) EXAMINER: Zeinab El Arini
SERIAL NO.: 09/650,103) ART UNIT: 1746
FILING DATE: August 29, 2000) DATE: December 30, 2003
FOR: METHOD FOR SURFACE)
PREPARATION OF
WORKPIECES UTILIZING
FLUID SEPARATION
TECHNIQUES)

LETTER AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted
to the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown
below.

Name: Barbara Browne Date: December 30, 2003

Signature: 

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Rejection Office Action mailed November 4, 2003, please
reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following remarks.